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PATENT APPLICATION  
09/398,987

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**RULE 116 AMENDMENT  
RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Allen Dean Mammel  
Serial No.: 09/398,987  
Filing Date: September 17, 1999  
Group Art Unit: 3643  
Examiner: Rowan, Kurt C.  
Title: *No-Tie Fishing System and Method*

VIA FACSIMILE NO. 703.306.4195  
ATTN: EXAMINER KURT ROWAN

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

FAX RECEIVED

DEC 16 2002

GROUP 3600

I hereby certify that this communication is being sent via facsimile to no. 703.306.4195 to the attention of Examiner Kurt Rowan with the United States Postal Service via facsimile to: Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date shown below.

*Katie W. Carnes*  
Katie W. Carnes

*December 16, 2002*

do not  
enter  
KR

Dear Sir:

**OFFICIAL**

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendment to put this application in condition for allowance. Please amend the application as follows:

**AMENDMENTS**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present application are shown below in clean form whether or not an amendment has been made. Please refer to the attached sheet showing a marked-up version of the amendments to the claims.